

Response Under 37 CFR 1.116
Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 1742
Application No. 10/004,919
Paper Dated: December 22, 2003
In Reply to USPTO Correspondence of August 20, 2003
Attorney Docket No. 2204-011501



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/004,919
Applicants : Naoto Hiramatsu et al.
Filed : December 3, 2001
Title : HIGH-STRENGTH AUSTENITIC STAINLESS STEEL
STRIP HAVING EXCELLENT FLATNESS AND METHOD
OF MANUFACTURING SAME
Group Art Unit : 1742
Examiner : Yee, Deborah

MAIL STOP AF
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action of August 20, 2003, Applicants submit the following remarks. A Petition for Extension of Time and requisite fee are submitted concurrently herewith.

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to MAIL STOP AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 22, 2003.

Florence P. Trevethan
(Name of Person Mailing Paper)

Florence P. Trevethan 12/22/2003
Signature Date

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RESPONSE TRANSMITTAL LETTER

MAIL STOP AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Serial No.: 10/004,919 Filing Date: December 3, 2001
Examiner: Yee, Deborah Group Art Unit: 1742
Invention: "High Strength Austenitic Stainless Steel Strip Having Excellent Flatness and Method of Manufacturing Same"

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in the above-identified application.

Small entity status is/has been asserted for this application under 37 CFR 1.27.
 A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.27 is enclosed.
 No additional fee is required.
 The fee has been calculated as shown below:

No of Claims After Amendment	Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Small Entity Rate	Non-Small Entity Rate	Charge
Total <u>4</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>0</u>	x \$ 9.00	x \$ 18.00	\$ 0
Indep. <u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	x \$ 43.00	x \$ 86.00	\$ 0
First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claim/s			+ \$145.00	+ \$290.00	\$ 0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE					\$ 0

A check in the amount of \$110.00 is enclosed to cover the Petition for Extension of Time fee.
 The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 23-0650. Please refund any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-0650. An original and two copies of this sheet are enclosed.
 Any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16.
 Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

December 22, 2003

Date

By

Alka A. Patel
Registration No. 49,092
Attorney for Applicants
700 Koppers Building
436 Seventh Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1818
Telephone: (412) 471-8815
Facsimile: (412) 471-4094
E-mail: webblaw@webblaw.com

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Florence P. Trevethan
(Name of Person Mailing Document)

Florence P. Trevethan 12/22/2003
Signature Date